Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 04511 260953Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01 DHA-02 SSO-00
NSCE-00 /033 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4399
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING

UNCLAS TAIPEI 4511

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PPDC, SOPN, TW, US
SUBJECT: LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM 589 PROFESSORS AT 12 UNIVERSITIES IN THE SOUTH OF TAIWAN RECEIVED BY EMBASSY JULY 22:

BEGIN TEXT: MY DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

AS PROFESSORS FROM VARIOUS UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IN THE SOUTH OF TAIWAN, REPUBLIC OF CHINA, WE TAKE LIBERTY TO MAKE THIS REPRESENTATION TO YOUR EXCELLENCY EXPRESSING OUR DEEP CONCERN WITH THE AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY TOWARDS CHINA DELIVERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE AT THE ASIA SOCIETY:

1. IN CONTRAST TO THE NIXON GOVERNMENT, YOUR ADMINISTRATION PLEDGED THE WORLD A NEW COURSE IN THE FORMATION OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PRINCIPLE OF MORALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS AS A BASIS OF YOUR FOREIGN POLICY WON AN IMMEDIATE AND ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA, ESPECIALLY IN INTELLECTUAL CIRCLES. MORALITY IS THE VERY CORE OF THE CHINESE WAY
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 TAIPEI 04511 260953Z

OF LIFE, AND THE RESPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS IS ONE OF THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF DR. SUN YAT-SEN'S THREE PEOPLE'S PRINCIPLES. WHILE IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE FREE WORLD TO STICK TO THE PRINCIPLE, IT IS NO LESS IMPORTANT THAT THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES CAN OBSERVE IT. "THE CHINESE MAINLAND," AS SHANGHAI INTELLECTUALS IN THEIR APPEALING LETTER TO YOUR EXCELLENCY PUT IT, "IS A HELL ON EARTH."

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THE PEOPLE OVER THERE HAVE LOST ALL THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS. THE DEFECTION OF A MIG-19 PILOT, MR. YUAN-YEN FAN, FROM CHINESE MAINLAND TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON JULY 7, 1977, REITERATES THE VERY FACT. IT IS THEREFORE UNFAIR FOR THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT A DIFFERENT STANDARD OF MORALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS. WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL PAY EQUAL ATTENTION TO THE SITUATION IN MAINLAND CHINA AND TO THAT OF OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, AND HONOUR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE FULL.

2. THE CHINESE COMMUNIST REGIME IS NOW IN GREAT CHAOS. ECONOMIC CRISIS, POWER SCRAMBLING, MILITARY-MEN'S CONFRONTATION AND PEOPLE'S REVOLTS HERE AND THERE ALL MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS TO RUN ON ANY FURTHER. IT IS INCONCEIVABLE THAT THE AMERICANS SHOULD INITIATE THE NEGOTIATION WITH THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS WHEN THERE IS NO STRONG LEADER YET TO DISCUSS WITH. WHAT IS MORE, NEGOTIATION WITH COMMUNISTS, AS WE ALL KNOW, CAN BE ANOTHER FORM OF STRUGGLE. ANY CONVENTION OR TREATY SUCH AS THE AGREEMENT REACHED AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE FOR THE VIETNAMESE CAN NEVER BE HONOURED BY THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, NOR CAN YOU EXPECT TO STRIKE A GOOD BARGAIN AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE.

3. THE VERY OBJECTIVE OF THE AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY IN THE FAR EAST SHOULD BE THE PROMOTION OF PEACE AND
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STABILITY IN THE AREA. THE MAJOR RATIONALE FOR AMERICAN NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH PEKING SHOULD NOT BE SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING DIPLOMATIC LEVERAGE AGAINST U.S.S.R. WHEN NORMALIZATION MEANS TO SACRIFICE YOUR FIRM ASIAN ALLY, R.O.C., AT THE DEMAND OF THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS, IT NO LONGER PROVIDES A SAFEGUARD TO THE PEACE IN ASIA. IT IS NOT WITHOUT DIFFICULTY FOR ALL ASIAN COUNTRIES TO RECOVER FROM THE FIRST SHOCK AT THE FALL OF LAOS, VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA SIMPLY BECAUSE THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT FAILED TO REALIZE ITS COMMITMENTS. STILL WORSE WILL BE THE SECOND SHOCK RESULTED FROM THE PROPOSED OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF ALL CHINESE COMMUNIST REGIME AND CONSEQUENTLY ALL ALLIES IN ASIA WILL HAVE TO RESHAPE THEIR POLICY TOWARDS AMERICA WHEN THEY FIND THEIR BEST FRIEND CAN NO LONGER BE RELIED UPON. THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH PEKING MIGHT BE AN EXPEDIENT POLICY TO PLAY OFF THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS AGAINST U.S.S.R. SO LONG AS THE FORMER HOLDS THE LATTER AS THEIR TARGET ENEMY. BUT THEY WILL TURN THEIR BACK UPON YOU ONCE RUSSIA CEASES TO BE A THREAT TO THEM. YOU CAN ACHIEVE NOTHING BY RESORTING TO SUCH A POLICY DETRIMENTAL TO YOUR ALLY.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

THE PEACE IN ASIA IS BENEFICIAL TO BOTH YOUR COUNTRY AND OURS. FOR OUR OWN PART, WE PLEDGE OUR BEST EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN IT. THE AMERICAN, IN OUR OPINION, IS TAKING A COURSE DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSITE TO OUR GOAL. WE TRUST THAT YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL GIVE A FULL CONSIDERATION TO THE ABOVE STATEMENTS AND THINK TWICE BEFORE TAKING ANY DECISIVE ACTIONS. WE THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

VERY RESPECTFULLY YOURS, (SIGNATURES ARE SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED LIST). END TEXT.

2. LETTER AND SIGNATURES ARE BEING POUCHED.
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PAGE 04 TAIPEI 04511 260953Z

UNCLASSIFIED

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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SAS ID: 1741917
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER
TAGS: PPDC, SOPN, TW, US, (CARTER, JIMMY)
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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